

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A battery comprising:

a power generating element including a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a separator;

a battery case for housing the power generating element, the battery case including a first inner wall surface and a second inner wall surface, such that a distance between the first inner wall surface and the second inner wall surface is designated as a width of an inside opening of the battery case-D1, and such that the width of the inside opening of the battery case-D1 spans across an entire interior width of the battery case;

a battery cover for closing the battery case;

a terminal provided for the battery cover;

a lead for electrically connecting the terminal and the positive electrode or the negative electrode of the power generating element; and

a member comprising resin and including a first side part and a second side part, such that a distance is formed between an outer side face of the first side part and an outer side face of the second side part is designated as D2,

wherein D2 the distance formed between the outer side face of the first side part and the outer side face of the second side part is at least equal to the width of the inside opening of the battery case-D1, such that the outer side face of the first side part of the member is pressed against the first inner wall surface of the battery case and the outer side face of the second side part of the member is pressed against the second inner wall surface of the battery case, and such that the member spans across the entire interior width of the battery case causing the member to be held in a position inside of the battery,

wherein the positive electrode of the power generating element includes a current collector and the negative electrode of the power generating element includes a include current collector-collectors, respectively,

wherein the current collector of the positive electrode and the current collector of the negative electrode each includes an active material coating portion and an active material non-coating portion, and

wherein ~~the member includes a void~~ a gap is located between the first side part and the second side part of the member, such that the first side part and the second side part sandwich together, within the gap, void sandwiches (i) the lead and (ii) the active material non-coating portion of the current collector of one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode that extends beyond the active material coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 1, wherein the first side part and the second side part of the member presses apply pressure to the sandwiched lead and the sandwiched active material non-coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode that extends-extending beyond the active material coating portion.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The battery according to claim 1, wherein the member has an insulating property.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The battery according to claim 1, wherein the member is adhered to the battery case.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The battery according to claim 1, wherein both of (i) a part in which the positive electrode and the lead are electrically connected, and (ii) a part in which the negative electrode and the lead are electrically connected, are sandwiched by the member.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The battery according to claim 1,
wherein the member further comprises ~~a middle part located center part~~ between the first side part and the second side part,

wherein a first gap is located between the first side part and the middle part of the member, such that the first side part and the middle part sandwich together, within the first gap, (i) the lead and (ii) the active material non-coating portion of the current collector of one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode that extends beyond the active material coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode, and

wherein a second gap is located between the second side part and the middle part of the member, such that the second side part and the middle part sandwich together, within the second gap (i) the lead and (ii) the active material non-coating portion of the current collector of one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode that extends beyond the active material coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode.

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The battery according to claim 1, further comprising:

an aluminum foil, which is the active material non-coating portion of the positive electrode and is projected in an upper end of the power generating element;

a copper foil, which is the active material non-coating portion of the negative electrode and is projected in a lower end of the power generating element;

an inner bottom face provided for the battery case;

a positive lead that connects the aluminum foil to the terminal; and

a negative lead that connects the copper foil to the inner bottom face,

wherein a part in which the positive lead and the aluminum foil are electrically connected is sandwiched by the member.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The battery according to claim 1, further comprising:

an aluminum foil, which is the active material non-coating portion of the positive electrode and is projected in a lower end of the power generating element;

a copper foil, which is the active material non-coating portion of the negative electrode and is projected in an upper end of the power generating element;

an inner bottom face provided for the battery case;

a positive lead that connects the aluminum foil to the inner bottom face; and

a negative lead that connects the copper foil to the terminal,

wherein a part in which the negative lead and the copper foil are electrically connected is sandwiched by the member.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (New) The battery according to claim 1, wherein the second side part and the first side part directly sandwich together, within the gap, (i) the lead and (ii) the active material non-coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode that extends beyond the active material coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode.

Claim 15 (New) The battery according to claim 1,

wherein the second side part of the member is in direct contact with one of (i) the lead and (ii) the active material non-coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode that extends beyond the active material coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode, and

wherein the first side part of the member is in direct contact with another of (i) the lead and (ii) the active material non-coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode that extends beyond the active material coating portion of the current collector of the one of the positive electrode and the negative electrode.